#8 two

105.2234_Mrs. Timko_n.d._p1

REPORT OF MRS. TIMKO

On Wednesday, September 23th, about 1:30 P.M., I called on Mrs. Morris Kidlitz, a Hungarian Jew, who resides at 8 Lincoln Avenue, Highland Park, N.J., and became quite familiar with her and gained her confidence as a Hungarian countrywoman through inquiring about friends of mine of a similar name.

About ten minutes later a man by the name of Greenwald arrived. Mr. Greenwald is also a Hungarian Jew and is a painter boss by occupation. After a short business discussion between Mrs. Kidlitz and Mr. Greenwald, Mrs. Kidlitz asked Mr. Greenwald, "How is your wife managing?", and he said, "It is rather a problem but she tries to cover her daily responsibilities with my assistance." Mrs. Kidlitz then addressed me and said, "You see this gentleman's wife is on the jury and she is quite a busy woman", which brought me into the conversation. I answered, "Isn't that interesting, it is quite a privilege." Mr. Greenwald answered, "Well since women have their vote they are serving on juries". Mrs. Kidlitz said, "You know they were trying to get women on the jury and grand jury in our case." Mr. Greenwald remarked, "Is that so?" (Mrs. Kidlitz did not state what she meant by "our case".)

After opening up the conversation of the wife of Mr. Greenwald being on the jury, Mrs. Kidlitz naturally followed it up with information she had in mind, saying to Mr. Greenwald, "By the way, I have good information for you. I have been around, you know, doing a little listening." She then described being in a certain delicatessen store in New Brunswick and said there was two fine, educated, American women there arguing on "our case". One of the women said she was sorry Simpson lost (this is probably a discussion on the motion for a foreign jury) and the other woman answered that she was not sorry, because he was going to put his own farmers on the jury and that would never do, and she was very glad it was decided that way, because she was positive he is going to fall through with the case in Somerset County, because he is not a Somerset County man. (Mrs. Kidlitz seemed to take a peculiar satisfaction in the conversation of the two women as reported above, but I could not decide which side she favored and, not being a party to the discussion, could not question her.) Mr. Greenwald was evidently not pleased at Mrs. Kidlitz volunteering information in front of a stranger.

In order to continue the conversation, I then said, "You have quite an interesting situation at present in New Brunswick regarding this matter". Mrs. Eidlitz said, "Yes, we have". I asked her, "Is it true that Willy is a sick man", and Mrs. Eidlitz replied, "Oh, no, he is not a sick man, he is a well man but just plain dumb. He is not all there, but you know that a man who is normal would not go amongst these Hungarian peasants and the ignorant people of other nationalities here and saw and chop wood for them". Mr. Greenwald, with a peculiar sarcasm, turned to me and said, "Oh, he knows what he is doing and whether it is right or wrong. There is no getting away from that." Mrs. Eidlitz answered, "I don't know, I disagree with you. I don't think that he is responsible for all that he does. I should say that he has a mind that he would do things when told by people to do them, just as a child does when commanded. Even those nasty things he does with girls he is not altogether responsible for. They know he is a fool and has a couple dollars and some of these foolish girls run after him". Mr. Greenwald said to Mrs. Eidlitz in a peculiar way, "Mrs. Eidlitz, are you sure of that?" She sort of realised that she had made a mistake and said, "Oh, yes, he is responsible in running after the girls but you know Mr. Greenwald his mind is no developed and his body is over-developed and, having no normal mind to control his over-developed body, naturally nature's instincts drives him to relieve himself of the burdens of nature and, not knowing how to help himself otherwise and owing to his misfortune, he has become a public freak. I think the public just as responsible for taking advantage of those uncontrolled weaknesses in that man and, therefore, I say he is not altogether responsible for all he is doing".

Mr. Greenwald said, "It is three o'clock, I suppose Patty will be coming here. I want to give her a good hug and squeeze". Mrs. Eidlitz said to me, "I have a fat daughter and everybody likes to hug and squeeze her". After a few remarks Mr. Greenwald left, saying he might come back. A little later "Patty" (Mrs. Eidlitz' daughter Lily) came in and Mrs. Eidlitz introduced her as her daughter Lily, saying, "This is the child Mr. Greenwald inquired about. He likes her very much and so do others. She is such a big bundle of fat the men folks like to fool around with her. I wish they would not, because she is neglecting her studies and I am very anxious to persuade her to study pharmacy, but she doesn't care very much for school and wants to leave when she finishes her business course." Then, patting Lily on the shoulder, she continued, "Here is another child whose body is developing faster than her mind. I suppose I'll have trouble with her". The child in question is 13 or 14 years of age, but appears to be about 16 or 17.